

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.71
Historic Name:	Methodist Society Chapel
Common Name:	Chapel in the Pines - First Universalist Chapel
Address:	220 Samoset Rd
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	Eastham Center
Local No:	15-B10-13
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	Hopkins, Elkany
Architectural Style(s):	Queen Anne
Use(s):	Chapel
Significance:	Architecture; Religion
Area(s):	EAS.B: Eastham Center Historic District
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (5/12/1999)
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood; Glass Foundation: Brick



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on:

Friday, May 15, 2015 at 4:25: PM

FORM B - BUILDING

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

15/B10-13

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

B

Form Number

71

Town

Eastham



Neighborhood or village)

Eastham Center

220 Samoset Road

Name Methodist Society Chapel
(Chapel in the Pines)

Present Ecclesiastical

Original "

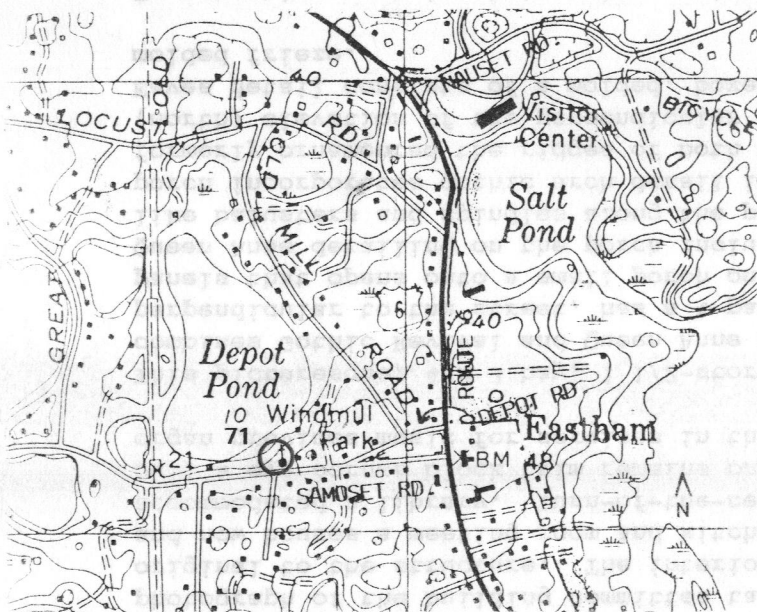
Construction 1889

See Bibliography*

Form Gothic Revival/Queen Anne

Architect/Builder Elkany Hopkins, Builder

here. Indicate North.



Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Shingle

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
None

Major Alterations (with dates) Shed with rear entry added adjacent to rear ell (date unknown). Universal access added to north (rear) elevation.

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage .4 acres

Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej

Organization: Commonwealth Collaborative

Date: February 1995

Setting Located next to the town library in a densely built-up, mostly-residential neighborhood between Long (aka. Depot) Pond and Samoset Road, a secondary street.

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

EAS. 71

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The Methodist Society Chapel (aka. Chapel in the Pines) is the only surviving historic, ecclesiastical building in Eastham. The church is described by Deyo as 50' x 40.' Although the lower height of the perpendicular, cross-gabled section on the east end suggests it may have been a later addition, a photograph of the building committee taken before the porch indicates it to be original to the structure. The interior of this area is largely open space and now houses a meeting room and kitchen, but may originally have accommodated a library. Turn-of-the-century, tung and groove wainscoting and bull's eye corner block trim remains on the interior. A Mason and Hanlin Litz organ provides music for services in the nave.

This picturesque, 4 x 3 bay, 1 1/2-story, L-plan, gable-roofed building combines Gothic Revival and Queen Anne elements. The enclosed entry, set perpendicular to the street, has a 4-panel, wooden door with tung and groove panels that opens onto a small porch on the end of the cross-gable. Queen Anne detailing on the porch includes turned posts with knobs, spindle-like balusters and spindles along the porch frieze. The open belfry above the porch incorporates gothic arch detail in the bracing. Roof cresting, which formerly ornamented the ridges of both sections, has been removed. The rear (north) elevation of the perpendicular section has a clipped gable. Eaves detail consists of a molded, boxed cornice above a narrow, molded frieze.

Fenestration, set in plain trim, varies to include: 6/4, colored, frosted glass, double-hung sash, gothic windows on the west elevation; a fixed, 3-paned, gothic window in the enclosed entry; double-hung, decorative, multi-colored, multi-paned, frosted glass over 2-paned sash on the facade and narrow, 8/2, double-hung sash overlooking the porch, on the east elevation and on the rear (north) elevation of the cross gable. Wall detail consists of end boards and a water table. Frontage and part of the side boundaries are denoted by an historic fence of granite posts connected by iron rods.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This chapel was erected in 1889 by the Universalist Society organized as a parish of 23 members on August 12 of the same year in a meeting at the old Town Hall (55 Salt Pond Road) where their services were also being held. John E. Ryder was elected president, Reverend Donald Frazier of Orleans was hired as a part time preacher and Luther Smith was appointed superintendent of the Sunday School. Captain Edward Penniman served as chairman of the building fund to which families and individuals from the Towns of Brewster, Orleans and Chatham as well as Eastham contributed. Dedication services occurred on January 29, 1890 by which time membership has risen to forty-nine.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 X Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;

If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

William H. Nickerson. Dedication services occurred on January 29, 1890 by which time membership has risen to forty-nine.

Reverend Donald Frasier of Orleans supplied the pulpit, serving from October 1, 1889 to 1892. Until 1934, the Eastham church continued to share a minister with Orleans. In 1932, the parish joined the Cape Cod Conference of Unitarian, Congregationalist and other Liberal Christian Churches (later called the Cape Cod Conference of Unitarian, Universalist and other Liberal Christian Churches). Unification of the Universalist and Unitarian Churches brought the Eastham Universalist Church together with the First Unitarian Church of Brewster to share one pastor with joint morning services alternately held in each parish and religious lectures and song services in the evening. Preaching was held monthly from April to October, 1934. The chapel then remained closed for two years. In the summers of 1937-1939, services were held by Reverend Robert T. Weston of Schenectady, New York who had a summer home in Eastham.

In 1920, when the Methodist Episcopal Church of Eastham burned, the Universalists offered them use of their chapel.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

"Chapel in the Pine." Vertical File. Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Deyo, Simeon L. ed. History of Barnstable County, Massachusetts, 1620 1890. (New York: H. W. Blake, 1890), pp. 732-33.

Lowe, Alice Alberta. Nauset on Cape Cod: A History of Eastham. (Falmouth: Eastham Historical Society, 1968), pp. 61-62.

Trayser, Donald Grant. Eastham, Massachusetts, 1651-1951: Eastham's Three Centuries. (Eastham, Eastham Tercentenary Committee, 1951) pp. 37-8.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community: Eastham
Property Address: 220 Samoset Road

Area B Form No. 71

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement

Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district
☐ Contributing to a ☐ Potential historic district
potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by: Dianne L. Siergiej
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The Methodist Society Chapel (aka. Chapel in the Pines) is significant on a local level with regard to the above-referenced criteria and the designated considerations as the only surviving, historic ecclesiastical building in Eastham. It is also significant for its associations with Captain Edward Penniman, one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of Eastham.

Original yellow form: Eligibility file _____
Copies: Inventory form X _____
Town file(w/corresp.) _____
Macris _____
NR director _____

EAS.71

Community: Eastham

MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER

Date Received: 10/16/95

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 11/29/95

Type: X Individual

 District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name: Universalist Society Chapel

Inventory Form: EAS.71

Address: 220 Samoset Road

Requested by: Eastham Historical Commission

Action: X Honor ITC Grant R & C Other:

Agency: Staff in charge of Review: AJ

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES

X Eligible
X Eligible, also in district
 Eligible only in district
 Ineligible
 More information needed

DISTRICTS

 Eligible
 Ineligible
 More information needed

CRITERIA: X A B X C D

LEVEL: X Local State National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by Allen Johnson

The Universalist Society Chapel, also known as the Chapel in the Pines, at 220 Samoset Road, is a 1 1/2-story, L-plan, gable-roofed building that combines elements of the Gothic Revival and Queen Anne styles. The chapel is significant as the only surviving historic ecclesiastical building in Eastham and meets Criteria A and C, as well as Criteria Consideration A, for individual listing in the National Register.

The chapel is also eligible for National Register listing as a contributing building in a potential Eastham Center historic district.